Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims

Claim 1: (currently amended) A method for preparing for and responding to a building incident comprising the steps of:

collecting a plurality of components of characteristic information about a building;

collecting relationship information about the building;

interrelating the plurality of components of the characteristic information through the relationship information to create linked characteristic information; [[and]]

providing the linked characteristic information in a pre-determined format;

receiving updates to existing of the characteristic information and existing of the relationship information; and

interrelating the plurality of components of the updated characteristic information through the updated relationship information.

Claim 2: (original) The method as defined in claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

limiting access to the linked characteristic information to a set of users; and

validating that a potential user is a member of the set of users.

Claim 3: (original) The method as defined in claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

determining contact information from the linked characteristic information; and

contacting individuals through use of the contact information.

Claim 4: (currently amended) The method as defined in claim 3 further comprising the step of automatically contacting individuals through use of electronic contact information automatically determined from the linked characteristic information.

Claim 5: (original) The method as defined in claim 1 further comprising the step of selecting the pre-determined format from a group consisting of electronic format and paper format.

Claim 6: (previously presented) The method as defined in claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

　　　　displaying the pre-determined format on a handheld device; and

　　　　manipulating the linked characteristic information on the handheld device to enable a response to the building incident.

Claim 7: (currently amended) A system for preparing for and responding to a building incident comprising:

　　　　a collector ~~capable of collecting~~ that collects characteristic information and relationship information about a building;

　　　　a linkage controller ~~capable of creating~~ that creates links among a plurality of components of said characteristic information through use of said relationship information, said links and said characteristic information forming linked characteristic information; [[and]]

　　　　an operations controller ~~capable of providing~~ that provides said linked characteristic information in a pre-determined format; and

　　　　an information modifier that allows modification to existing said characteristic information and existing said relationship information,

　　　　wherein said information modifier accesses said relationship builder to recreate said linked characteristic information.

Claim 8: (currently amended) The system as defined in claim 7 further comprising an authentication subsystem ~~capable of validating~~ that validates that a potential user is allowed access to said linked characteristic information.

Claim 9: (original) The system as defined in claim 7 wherein said characteristic information is selected from a group consisting of building characteristics, utilities list, photographs, demographic information, and emergency response list.

Claim 10: (currently amended) The system as defined in claim 7 wherein said linkage controller comprises:

an information collector ~~capable of receiving~~ that receives said characteristic information and said relationship information; and

a relationship builder ~~capable of establishing~~ that establishes relationships among each of said plurality of components,

wherein said relationship builder ~~capable of creating~~ creates linked characteristic information from said characteristic information and said relationship information; ~~and~~

~~an information modifier capable of allowing modification to said characteristic information and said relationship information, said information modifier capable of accessing said relationship builder to recreate said linked characteristic information if necessary.~~

Claim 11: (currently amended) The system as defined in claim 7 wherein said operations controller comprises:

an operator interface ~~capable of receiving~~ that receives requests for said linked characteristic information;

a searcher ~~capable of retrieving~~ that retrieves the requested said linked characteristic information;

an information formatter ~~capable of preparing~~ that prepares the retrieved requested said linked characteristic information in said pre-determined format; and

an information supplier ~~capable of sending~~ that sends said linked characteristic information to a requester.

Claim 12: (currently amended) The system as defined in claim 11 wherein said operations controller further comprises:

a dispatcher ~~capable of retrieving~~ that retrieves a contact list from said linked characteristic information, said contact list including responding contacts and affected contacts,

wherein said dispatcher ~~capable of tasking~~ provides instructions to the responding contacts; and

a notifier ~~capable of retrieving~~ that retrieves said contact list,

wherein said notifier ~~capable of informing~~ informs the affected contacts of the building incident.

Claim 13: (currently amended) The system as defined in claim 7 further comprising a structure characteristic and relationship database ~~capable of storing~~ that stores information including said characteristic information, said relationship information, and said linked characteristic information.

Claim 14: (currently amended) A method for configuring a system for preparing for and managing an incident in a building comprising the steps of:

verifying a floor plan for the building;

photographing pre-determined locations in the building; [[and]]

photographing pre-determined parts of the building;

collecting statistics related to the building;

linking the photographs and the statistics to the floor plan; [[and]]

providing the linked information in a pre-determined format;

receiving changes to existing of the photographed pre-determined locations in the building;

receiving changes to existing of the photographed pre-determined parts of the building;

receiving changes to existing of the statistics related to the building;

linking the changed photographs to the changed statistics; and

providing the changed linked information in the pre-determined format.

Claim 15: (original) The method as defined in claim 14 further comprising the step of selecting the statistics from a group consisting of number of people in the building, presence of a motion detection system in the building, presence of closed circuit TV in the building, presence of hazardous materials in the building, directions to the building, individuals related to the building, and garages with hazardous material within proximity to the building.

Claim 16: (original) The method as defined in claim 14 further comprising the step of selecting the pre-determined format from a group consisting of electronic format and paper format.

Claim 17: (original) A node for carrying out the method according to claim 1.

Claim 18: (original) A computer readable medium having instructions embodied therein for the practice of the method of claim 1.

Claim 19: (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
    receiving a selection of one of the plurality of components; and
    providing at least a portion of the linked characteristic information that is interrelated to the selection and that provides information related to the building incident.

Claim 20: (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
    receiving a selection of a room in the building; and
    providing a photograph of the room in response to said step of receiving the selection.